STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS—*Contd.*

Violence by all adivashi students association of Assam on 24th November, 2007

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise, with a deep sense of anguish, to inform this august House of the violence which took place in Guwahati on 24th Nov., 2007. The Government of Assam has informed that:—

All Adivashi Students Association of Assam (AASAA) had applied to District Magistrate, Guwahati on 6.11.07 for holding a Gana Samabesh (rally) on 24.11.07 at Guwahati in the South Beltola School field to press for their demand of declaring the Adivashis in Assam as Scheduled Tribes (Plains). No permission was granted to the Association for holding the rally. However, the people brought by AASAA started gathering in the field of South Beltola High School from the morning of 24.11.07. About 3000 to 3500 people gathered at the site by 11.30 AM. Most of the people came from the districts of Kokrajhar, Karbi Anglong, Darrang, Udalguri, Golaghat etc., in about 50-60 buses. After gathering they wanted to take out a procession to the Dispur Capital complex.

They were not given permission by the Magistrate on duty to take out the procession. But, about 1000-1500 persons broke away forcefully by overpowering the Police pickets at aroung 12.00 noon and entered the Bassistha Road leading to Dispur Capital complex from Beltola. On the way they reportedly indulged in vandalism and damage to shops and cars by pelting stones and using the lathis, bows and arrows, which they were carrying with them.

More than 50 vehicles and 30 shops are said to have been damaged in the process. When the processionists reached near the entrance to the MLA's Hostel, the Police party dispersed them by mild *lathi* charge and fired tear gas shells. On being dispersed, the processionists ran in different directions and entered different byelanes in the area in addition to the main Basistha road. While they were dispersing the persons affected by the violence, these people retaliated and attacked them. As a result, number of processionists and agitationists were injured. The situation was brought under control by 1.00 p.m. on 24th Nov., 2007, with the arrival of additional police force.

All the injured persons were shifted to Guwahati Medical College Hospital and Mahendra Mohan Choudhury Civil Hospital.The total number of persons injured is 242, out of which, 10 persons have been injured seriously. One person succumbed to his injury in the Hospital in the evening. The identity of the dead person is yet to be ascertained. Fifty-seven persons have been discharged and sent back to their respective districts on 25.11.07. All steps are beign taken to give free medical treatment. It is expected that all the remaining persons other than the ten seriously injured persons will be discharged and sent to their respective home districts by 26.11.07 forenoon.

The District Magistrate imposed curfew, as a precautionary measure, from 2.25 p.m. on 24.11.07, which had been relaxed for 12 hours from 8.00 a.m. on 25.11.07. The curfew has been withdrawn from 8.00 p.m. on 25th November, 2007. On 24th November, 2007, after the incident, about 2000 persons, who were in the meeting ground, were safely sent back to their districts with police escort in the evening in the vehicles brought by them. About 900 people were rescued from different roads and byelanes and they were taken to Basistha

Thana and sent to their respective home districts by 25th November under strong and adequate police escort.

The State Government has already announced ex-gratia of Rs. 3 lakhs to the next of kin of the person killed and Rs. 50,000/- to the persons seriously injured and Rs. 10,000/- to the persons with simple injury. An enquiry by Shri P.P. Verma, Additional Chief Secretary, has been ordered.

The situation at present is peaceful and under watch. The AASAA has given a call for 36 hours Assam *bandh* from 5.00 a.m. of 26.11.07 to 5.00 p.m. of 27.11.07.

A close watch is being kept on the situation. The senior officers of the Ministry of Home Affairs are in constant touch with the Chief Secretary and DGP of the State.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is not there in the statement.

SHRI AMAR SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): You have not read para 2. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: आपने कहा, "a close watch is being kept...". That is not there in the statement, but that is ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI AMAR SINGH: You have not read the part which says, "There has been a demand for giving ST status...".

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल: यह पढ़ा हुआ माना जाए।...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री अमर सिंह: आपने नहीं पढ़ा। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री के० बी० शणप्पा (कर्नाटक): यही तो main Para है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति: दो स्टेटमेंट अभी आ गए हैं ...(**व्यवधान**)... ठीक है।

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल: सर, उसे करैक्शन करके फिर से माननीय सदस्यों को भेज दिया जाएगा। जो स्टेटमेंट मैंने दिया है, वही सही है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... यह टाइपिंग मिस्टेक हो सकती है ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति: अभी आपने पूरा नहीं पढ़ा ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There has been a demand ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (Madhya Pradesh): Has this paragraph been deliberately deleted? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will sort it out. *(Interruptions)* Please sit down. Please sit down.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Sir, has this paragraph been deliberately deleted? *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Please sit down. *(Interruptions)*

श्री रूदनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): सर, यह कैसी सरकार चल रही है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... हम बोलेंगे तो कहते हैं कि बोलता है ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. *(Interruptions)* आप बैठिए ...(**व्यवधान**)... Obviously, there seems to be some mistake. There are two statements. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Is it a mistake or a deliberate omission? That is the thing. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are two statements. One statement contains that additional paragraph and the other one does not carry it. So, which is the correct statement? That can be circulated. *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Whatever the hon. Minister has read is the correct statement. If there are any questions to be asked on other issues, on other facts, they can be replied to. But we were expected to give the facts relating to the incidents and those facts are given here. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What the hon. Members say ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, हम गृहमंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहेंगे ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is right that whatever the hon. Minister has read is correct. *(Interruptions)*

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, हमें यह स्टेटमेंट सर्कुलेट हुआ है ...(व्यवधान)... उन्होंने बहुत सिग्निफिकैंट पैरा पढ़ने से छोड़ा है ...(व्यवधान)... सर, यह पैराग्राफ बहुत इम्पॉर्टेंट है...(व्यवधान)... यह सर्कुलेट हुआ है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एस॰ एस॰ अहलुवालिया (झारखंड): सर, हिन्दी और इंग्लिश का पैराग्राफ '2' पढ़ा है ...(व्यवधान)... और जो सर्कुलेट किया गया, पैराग्राफ '2' ...(व्यवधान)... there has been ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, what is this? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR (Tripura): Sir, how can this happen? *(Interruptions)*

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, ऐसा सदन में पहली बार हो रहा है।

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): It has never happened in the House. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please wait. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: That was the demand *(Interruptions)*. That was the demand *(Interruptions)*

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, यह बहुत इम्पॉर्टेंट पैराग्राफ है।

श्री अमर सिंह: सर, यह जो आज सदन में हुआ है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, यह डिलीट नहीं किया गया है ...(व्यवधान)... Amar Singhji, obviously, the person who has prepared the statement has not ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रूद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, इस तरह करना सदन की ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अमर सिंह: सर, यह बात ठीक नहीं है।

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, ...(व्यवधान)... सभापति जी, ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Let me explain (*Interruptions*). Let me explain. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Obviously, there is some...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, when this statement was brought to me, I thought that the House wanted to know the facts. We had given the facts. Now, paragraph no.2 is not

relating to the incident as such. It relates to something that had happened in the past. That is why, it was deleted. (*Interruptions*) But if you ...(*Interruptions*)... Let me complete. If you want to read it as a part of the statement, we have absolutely no obejction. (*Interruptions*)

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, इसे सदन में पढ़वाइये...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एस॰एस॰ अहलुवालिया: सर, मंत्री महोदय ने जो ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA (Maharashtra): What is this? (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us not ask more questions (*Interruptions*)

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, यह बहुत ही इम्पॉर्टेंट पैराग्राफ हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Let me explain. (*Interruptions*) Let me explain. I will explain, otherwise ...(*Interruptions*)

श्री एस॰एस॰ अहलुवालिया: सर, हमारी प्रॉब्लम...(व्यवधान)...सर, जिस लोकुर कमेटी के बारे में आप कह रहे हैं, 1965 में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवराज वी॰ पाटिल: एक मिनट ...(व्यवधान)... आप एक-एक करके पूछिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एस॰एस॰ अहलुवालिया: सर, इसी को लेकर आन्दोलन चल रहे हैं और इसी को लेकर कल वे आए थे ...(व्यवधान)... शुक्रवार को वे इसी को लेकर आए थे ...(व्यवधान)... यही कारण था और उसी को आप डिलीट करना चाहते हैं ...(व्यवधान)...यह आप कैसे कर सकते हैं ...(व्यवधान)...यह पार्ट ऑफ द प्रोसीडिंग है, यह जो चीज़ आपने सर्कुलेट की है this is a part of the proceedings (*Interruptions*) आप पैराग्राफ '2' पढ़ दीजिए।

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, इसे सदन में पढ़वाइए, यह बहुत ही इम्पॉर्टेंट पैराग्राफ है।

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I can explain. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Ahluwaliaji, please ...(*Interruptions*)... Obviously, in the statement which has been circulated to the hon. Members, additional para 2 is mentioned, which has not been read by the Minister. This has not been read, which is obviously a mistake.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: नहीं, नहीं, वे इसे पढ़ना चाह रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It should not have happened because a statement that is circulated in the House has sanctity. That statement has been included. For that, the hon. Minister has given an explanation that this para, which he has deleted, obviously, has not been deleted by the person who prepared the statement.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: No, no, Sir, it is not that. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ahluwalia, the Home Minister said, "He came to me. I deleted it." (*Interruptions*) This is what he is explaining. (*Interruptions*) यह क्या बात है? (व्यवधान)

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the second point is the cause for the first point. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is correct. (*Interruptions*) Obviously, whatever statement the Governments want to make, it is their prerogative. (*Interruptions*)

श्री एस०एस० **अहलुवालिया:** आप हिन्दी अनुवाद पढ़ लीजिए, जिसमें लिखा है- 'श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल द्वारा राज्य सभा में ...(**व्यवधान**)... दिया जाने वाला वक्तव्य' ...(**व्यवधान**)... और क्या लिखा गया है? ...(**व्यवधान**)... उसमें लिखा गया है ...(**व्यवधान**)... बिहार, उड़ीसा के ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति: फिर क्या करें, आप बोलिए? ...(**व्यवधान**)... Obviously, care has not been taken while circulating. (*interruptions*) मैं कह रहा हूँ कि गलत हुआ है ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री एस०एस० **अहलुवालिया:** यह गलत नहीं हुआ है ...(**व्यवधान**)... जिसने भी यह पैराग्राफ बनाया है, उसने सही बनाया है ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: उन्हें पढ़ने दो ...(**व्यवधान**)... वे पढ़ना चाह रहे हैं ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति: अब जिसने इसे बनाया है, आप उसकी बात मानते हैं या होम मिनिस्ट्री की बात मानते हैं? ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: वे पढ़ना चाह रहे हैं ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप पढ़िए ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल: सर, ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप अगर निर्देश दें तो मैं यह स्टेटमेंट भी पढ़ दूँ ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं निर्देश की बात नहीं कह रहा हूँ ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप वह पैरा भी पढ़ दीजिए ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, we have no objection.

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Sir, there has been a demand for giving Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to Tea and ex-tea garden communities comprising Munda, Oran, Gonds, Santhals etc., from Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh etc. This has been examined several times by the office of RGI. The Lokur Committee had also considered this issue in 1965, and had noted that they agreed with the opinion of the Backward Classes Commission and did not recommend the tea plantation labourers to be treated as STs. The settlers in the tea estates have tended to lose their tribal characteristics in the new surroundings. Moreover, the office of RGI noted that many of the tea tribe communities were not STs even in their native States i.e. Basor, Bhattar, Basphoor, Bhagta, Tandoi, etc. were SC in the native states while Bhamij, Beha, etc. were listed as SC/ST in different States of origin. Based on these considerations and the observations of the Lokur Committee, as well as the Backward Classes Commission, RGI has not supported the proposal of the State Govt. for inclusion of tea tribes in the list of STs in Assam. The Government of Assam had also initially consistently opposed giving them the ST status.

A close watch is being kept on the situation. The senior officers of the Ministry of Home Affairs are in constant touch with the Chief Secretary and DGP of the State.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Kumar Deepak Das. आप सिर्फ क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछिए ...(**व्यवधान**)... Patilji, if you want to reply for the first, you can reply.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, it will not be possible for me to reply to so many things at one and the same time.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, आप ऐसा करें कि जो क्लैरिफिकेशस हैं, वह बाद में ले लेंगे ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति: हाँ, वह बाद में ले लेंगे ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: वह बाद में ले लेंगे, क्योंकि स्टेटमेंट बहुत डिटेल्ड आ गया है। आज बम्ब ब्लास्ट वाला कर लेते हैं ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है ...(**व्यवधान**)...

Sense of the House is respected.